



## UNIT CITATION

The Fire Chief and members of the Charleston Fire Department wish to recognize the exceptional service provided by Engine 108, A Shift. This service, as described in the citation below, exemplifies the dedication, training, courage, and commitment that are the traditions of a Charleston Firefighter. We are proud to recognize your service.


**E108, A Shift**  
**Captain (Acting) Hugo Marchand**  
**Assistant Engineer Keith Gordon**  
**Firefighter Joseph Hardin**  
**Firefighter Andrew Jones**

On Monday, December 14, 2015, an unconscious patient was carried into the quarters of Fire Station 8. The person carrying the patient stated that she had taken heroin or some other form of an opiate. Crew members assessed the patient and found she was unresponsive and not breathing. Acting Captain Marchand notified Dispatch of the situation and requested EMS. Crew members initiated assessment, obtained a patent airway after some difficulty and supported the patient with oxygen. The patient briefly regained consciousness and became combative in the small work space. Crew members secured the patient to a long spine board with straps to keep her from injuring herself and resisting treatment. The patient became unconscious again. Crew members continued to support the patient's respirations until the arrival of the medic unit. Acting Captain Marchand cordoned the scene from bystanders and directed one suspicious person out of the station until CPD arrived and secured the scene.

The crew continued to play an active role in the resuscitation effort, providing a complete turnover to the medic unit and actively assisting the EMS crew with patient care. When the patient briefly regained consciousness for the second time, Firefighter/PM Jones had the forethought to ask the patient for information that led to a more rapid delivery of the lifesaving drug, Narcan. This act hastened stabilizing the patient. Crew members continued to assist EMS by loading the patient onto the stretcher and into the ambulance.

All crew members of Engine 108 performed calmly under pressure and demonstrated a high level of proficiency. Engine 108's crew was able to sustain the patient until advanced treatment arrived by quickly recognizing the situation and taking decisive action. The patient would not have survived if not for Acting Captain Marchand, Assistant Engineer Gordon, FF/PM Jones, and FF/EMT Hardin.

  
Karen E. Brack  
Fire Chief

  
Date